

cylinder 4' so that the blades 13 of the cutting cylinder 3 contact the cutting ledges 11' during a cutting operation.

The diameter of the transfer cylinder 4' is 1000 mm. The length of the ribbon 1, from the cutting ledge 11' to the next following tucking blade 6 is 310.02 mm, which is the sum of the straight line having a length of 283.19 mm and the curved line having a length of 26.83 mm, as shown in Fig. 6. 1

In the Claims:

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Claim 1 (amended). A variable length cutting device, comprising:

a cutting cylinder;

a transfer cylinder cooperating with said cutting cylinder for cutting a ribbon into signatures having a desired cutoff length, said transfer cylinder having a central cylinder axis and a circumferential region; and

an adjustable diameter portion disposed in said circumferential region of said transfer cylinder, said adjustable diameter portion being movable in a direction toward and away from said central cylinder axis for adjusting the desired cutoff length of the signatures.

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Claim 5 (amended). The cutting device according to claim 1,
including a cutting blade fixed to said cutting cylinder and a
cutting ledge disposed in said circumferential region of said
transfer cylinder for cooperating with said cutting blade, and
means for rotating said cutting cylinder and said transfer
cylinder in synchronism.

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Claim 6 (amended). The cutting device according to claim 1,
including means for rotating said transfer cylinder at a
constant angular speed.